

## UAHC Proposal

### CSZ Presents AIDS Resolution

The General Assembly of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations International Biennial will have before it resolutions on such pressing human issues as apartheid and sanctuary. Congregation Sha'ar Zahav is doing its best to see to it that the august body also considers and adopts a policy on AIDS. The idea originated with Bruce Katz and the Social Action committee, and was approved in principle by the Va'ad at its August meeting. After many hours of refining our draft to conform with UAHC format, the resolution was ready to go.

Too late for the organization's deadline for presentation of proposals through the official Resolutions Committee, we are utilizing the alternate approach permitted by UAHC bylaws of having five congregational delegations support submission of our resolution on the floor of the Assembly. Also, with the help of regional director Rabbi Morris Hershman, we hope

(Continued on page 3)

## From the Rabbi

### Classes Begin Monday October 21

After a summer of dedicated work by the Education Committee, Sha'ar Zahav will inaugurate "Education Night," beginning with the Fall term on Monday evening, October 21st. Three courses will be offered: "Reform Judaism: How, What and Why" and "A Jewish Look at the Five Books: Exodus," which I will be teaching, and "Jewish Life through Music," which will be led by Jonathan Schwartz, librarian of the Jewish Community Library and an accomplished musician and teacher. Classes will meet for eight sessions; a refreshment break is scheduled between classes. Please see separate listing elsewhere within this issue for further details and information on how to enroll.

The formats and topics selected are intended to appeal to the diverse interests of our members. All of the courses, lectures and programs of the Congregation share a common purpose: to open the rich Jewish tradition to our Congregation. Franz Rosenzweig, the great Jewish philosopher and teacher, called for a renaissance in Jewish learning when he

addressed the opening of the *Judisches Lehrhaus*, the House of Jewish learning, in Frankfurt in 1920: "A new 'learning' is about to be born—rather, it has been born.

"It is a learning in reverse order. A learning that no longer starts from the Torah and leads into life, but the other round: from life, from a world that knows nothing of the Torah, or pretends to know nothing, back to the Torah. . . . We all know that in being Jews we must not give up anything, not renounce anything, but lead everything back to Judaism. From the periphery back to the center, from the outside, in. . . . It is. . . a matter of. . . finding the way back into the heart of our life. And of being confident that this heart is a Jewish heart."

You are invited to build with us a *Beit Midrash*, a House of Jewish Study, in our home. The study in our synagogue will not consist of passive listening, but vibrant questioning and discussion that engages heart and mind.

(Continued on page 4)

## Simchat Torah

Simchat Torah, the "Rejoicing of the Law," will be celebrated at Sha'ar Zahav on Sunday evening, October 6th, at 7:30 p.m. On Simchat Torah, we read the closing words of the Torah, the last chapter of Deuteronomy, and immediately begin reading again from the first chapter of Genesis, the story of creation. The cycle of Torah reading and study is never interrupted. Our celebration will include food, spirits, dancing, music, flags and *aliyot* for the entire congregation. During our service, we will formally welcome our new Torah scroll, on long-term loan from Congregation Beth-Israel Judea. *Zeh ha-yom asah Adonai—na'gilah v'nismacha bo*. "This is the day which Adonai has made—let us gaily rejoice upon it!" (Psalm 118)





## President's Column

As we conclude our observance of the High Holy Days, it is important to look back and acknowledge all those who worked so hard to arrange all of our services and functions. I am thankful to each individual who helped and participated. In particular, I would like to mention the following people: Daniel Chesir, Chair, and the Ritual Committee who spent countless hours in the planning and leading of our services; the Sha'ar Zahav Ensemble, whose hours of rehearsals resulted in beautiful music; Nanci Stern and Irene Ogus who inspired us with their sermons; Betty Kalis, David Stein, Cheryl Orvis and Dan Chesir, each provided important messages about financial support from our synagogue; Marion Trentman and Steve Cronenwalt's blowing of the shofar brought to our hearts and minds one of the oldest traditions of our people; High Holy Days Co-ordinator Frank Hyman arranged all of our non-ritual needs and supported the Oneg Co-Chairs Lenny Brill and Shelley Spiro, and Lawney Baldwin, this year's Head Usher; Bob Berkowitz, Chair, and the entire Membership Committee prepared material and greeted members, guests and friends at our information table; Allyce Kimerling and Diana Buchbinder, the ChildCare Co-ordinators; Sharyn Saslafsky, Public Relations Chair, who prepared and placed all of our advertising; Nancy Meyer for her work on the annual High Holy Days Blood Drive; and Allan Gold and David Gass for offering their home for the Succot celebration.

As you can see, these events do not take place without planning and hard work by many people. For many, that work is part of the joy of being a member of Sha'ar Zahav. To each of you . . . those named . . . and those not . . . *thank you all.*

Don't worry—I haven't forgotten to thank Rabbi Kahn for his efforts this past

month. We are all fortunate that he is a part of our family and I'm grateful that I have the opportunity to work with him. Rabbi Kahn, thank you for all of your contributions to the spirituality of these past holidays. And to Marilyn Hertzberg, our administrator, thank you for your support and help in keeping it all moving along.

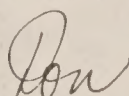
On occasion, I am asked about the role we play in the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC). For those of you who are not familiar with UAHC, it is the Reform Movement's organizing body in the United States and Canada. They are also the sponsor of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, of which Rabbi Kahn is a recent graduate.

There are many reasons for our participation in UAHC and I could like to spend a moment explaining just one. As a gay and lesbian congregation, we have the opportunity to help build awareness and remove prejudice about issues of importance. Currently, AIDS is such an issue. Because of this, Congregation Sha'ar Zahav will bring to the General Assembly of the Biennial Convention a resolution calling on the UAHC and its member congregations to support increased funding, anti-discrimination measures and community/congregational education. We will bring this issue forward as an informed member of UAHC, but, we clearly see this as a universal issue, not gay/lesbian.

Elsewhere in this issue of *The Forward* is the text of the resolution and additional information on the process we will be following. I certainly think that this is an important function for us as a synagogue. It is part of the work that we must do—it is part of why we are here. If we are successful, it will be an accomplishment of which we can all be proud. Each of you can help. If you have friends or relatives who belong to Reform congregations in other parts of the country, please send them a copy of the resolution. Ask them to lobby their delegates to support this measure. Let's all participate in making this a success for our community.

Copies of the resolution and accompanying literature are available by contacting Marilyn in the Synagogue office. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me directly (641-5113).

Shalom



## New Members

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our Congregation gained two new members in September. A warm welcome to new members:

Walter Palmer  
Ruby Rohrlich

New members are welcomed and honored at Friday night services on the last Friday of the month. By making them feel a part of our family, we can all help to show our new members that they have a valuable place at Sha'ar Zahav.

---

**The Jewish Gaily Forward** is published 12 times annually by Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, (415) 861-6932. Permission to reproduce non-copyrighted material is freely given, credit would be appreciated.

Members of the Congregation receive *The Forward*. For a donation of \$10/year, nonmembers will receive *The Forward*.

All newsletter copy should be typed, double-spaced and is due no later than the date of the Va'ad meeting. It should be sent to the Synagogue office, marked to the attention of *The Forward*.

Members of the Newsletter Committee are Bob Goldware (Articles Coordinator), Stephanie Hannaford (Graphics Coordinator), Jay Feinstein (Advertising Coordinator), Alex Ingersoll, Richard Inlander, Irene Ogus and Alita Rosenfeld (general editorial and production); Frank Hyman, Ben Schalit, Barry Siegel, Sam Thal and Eli Weinstein (distribution). *The Forward* is typeset by Artspec Imaging Ltd.

•  
**Display Ads** are \$15 per column inch for non-members and \$10 per column inch for members, with a frequency discount of 10% for six or more issues. Ads should be camera ready; any ads that require typesetting, camera and/or artwork will be subject to a one-time production charge.

**Classified Ads** are \$5.00 for up to 20 words, plus \$1.00 for each 10 additional words.

Payment must accompany ad and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, marked attention *Forward* advertising. The advertising deadline is the 10th of the month. *The Forward* reserves the right to reject any ad for reasons of taste. For more information on advertising rates and charges, call the Synagogue Office at 861-6932.

---

### MARILYN MILLER FINANCIAL PLANNER

- Tax free retirement income – beats IRA
- High-yield securities, plus liquidity under life insurance umbrella
- Offering variable life and traditional investment plans.

Free consultation.

Call Marilyn Miller (415) 861-0880



## AIDS Resolution (Continued from page 1)

to secure an unofficial endorsement of the Resolutions Committee itself.

With Mike Rankin's usual tireless efforts in UAHC matters around the country, our six-person delegation expects to go to Los Angeles with support from many congregations in our region. We will likely be joined by others from all over the United States and Canada, all prepared to support both the submission of the resolution and its passage. A major task of our delegation will be lobbying for support in the General Assembly.

### Resolution Submitted To The UAHC

More than 12,000 North Americans have been diagnosed as having Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). This disease has taken the lives of over 6000 people in the United States and Canada alone. Countless others are being diagnosed and dying all over the world.

The statistics related to the future spread of AIDS are staggering. Yet, there is no effective prevention or treatment available. Medical authorities are unable to project when scientific knowledge will provide a solution to this crisis. It is universally accepted that a key element to this solution is an increase in funding for research in preventing and treating this disease.

Not only are people with AIDS facing the trauma of terminal illness, they are also being subjected to inhumane discrimination and isolation, in all aspects of their lives. People with AIDS are being evicted from their dwellings, losing their jobs and being denied access to public accommodations and community services.

The discrimination and isolation inflicted on people with AIDS results from misinformation and ignorance regarding issues of public health. Therefore, public education is an essential element in dealing with the AIDS crisis. Through education we can provide the human support for one another that is part of our tradition as a caring community.

Fear is generated by ignorance; education is the only solution.

Our Jewish tradition calls upon us to offer healing and give comfort to the sick. We must insure that people with AIDS do not become strangers in their own lands.

These mitzvot must be translated into action for our time.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Union of American Congregations and its member Congregations:

1. Call upon the governments of the United States and Canada to increase the financial and human resources assigned to the tasks of research in the prevention and treatment of AIDS, in a manner consistent with the urgency of this human crisis; and, consistent with their stated position, that AIDS is their top health priority.
2. Call upon all governmental bodies (legislative, executive and judicial), consistent with public health, to prohibit discrimination against people with AIDS in housing, employment, health and community services.
3. Call upon its members to support community education and to provide for Congregational education about AIDS through written and oral material, provided and presented by knowledgeable professionals.

\* \* \*

Representing Sha'ar Zahav at the conference will be our 3 delegates: Don Albert, Leslie Bergson and Mike Rankin; and our 3 alternates: Rabbi Kahn, Betty Kalis and David Stein.

### Oneg Sponsors

During the month of August, Friday night Onegs were sponsored by the following generous persons:

August 2—Ron Lezell, in honor of John Golebowski's 80th birthday

August 9—John Arnold, in honor of Jonathan Funk's birthday. Jonathan Funk provided flowers in honor of his and John's anniversary

August 16—Mike Rankin provided flowers in honor of: Nanci Stern's new book, Leslie Bergson's new car, and Nate and Charlene's new home

August 23—Betty Kalis and Marion Trentman, in honor of the Rabbi's installation

All you have to do to sponsor an Oneg is to think of the occasion and contact the synagogue office (861-6932). The cost of sponsoring an Oneg is \$50 (partial sponsorship available) or you can also provide the food, flowers, etc. for a more personal touch.

## Simchat Torah Fair and Rally

Jewish community relations activities are supposed to enhance conditions conducive to secure and creative Jewish living. On Sunday, October 13th, our community will participate in the Simchat Torah Fair and Rally on Green Street near the Soviet Consulate in San Francisco.

It not only brings home our feelings of freedom of religion, thought and expression in our community, but also reminds those who would deny these conditions to our fellows that we speak out for them.

The place is only a symbol. It could as easily have been held in front of the Argentinian Consulate, the German Consulate or our own City Hall.

The message is very real. It is our privilege and honor to participate in reminding others in our midst and in the world at large of our deeply rooted convictions of religious and ethical values which allow all of us the opportunity for secure, meaningful lives.

In the Soviet Union, seeking one's roots and promoting them is seen as a "Fifth Column," recalling the charges made against Jews under Stalin and his heirs. Since they are the most obvious of our many detractors, we choose to sit in their front yard to make our statement.

While looking at the larger issues involving ourselves and our fellow Jews in other places, it is also important to realize that we gay Jews are seeking and continue to seek our roots and conditions which lead to secure, meaningful lives for us and our friends here at home.

Since this Fair-Rally is supposed to be an educational experience, I urge all our members to attend. Do wear your congregational T-shirts prominently, your membership badges or at least meet us under the CSZ banner so that we may be both visible and available to our fellows for their education and for ours. These outward signs leave no doubt in the minds of others that we are there, willing to mix and share.

We appreciate the invitation to be a part of this Fair-Rally and I hope that there is a sea of white shirts to be seen on that day.

The Jewish Community Relations Council is in need of volunteers and monitors for staffing booths as well as for set up (8-10am) and dismantling of equipment (1-2pm). If you can help out, please call Marilyn at the synagogue.

—Lawney Baldwin,  
Social Action Committee



## Parents of Gays Film on KQED

The compelling story of eight parents facing the challenge of accepting their gay and lesbian children is the subject of "Parents Come Out", a documentary produced by Aaron Cooper and Pat Blumenthal and directed by Rob Tat. Created for Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG), the film is the first documentary treatment of the struggle facing many of the nearly 20 million families in this country with a gay or lesbian member.

"Parents Come Out" is currently scheduled for broadcast on KQED/Channel 9 in late October or early November. Watch local listings for the specific day and time. Members of Sha'ar Zahav attending the July Leadership Advance had a chance to preview the film, and reported it was fantastic.

The program takes the viewer from the parents' earliest days after "Finding Out," through "The Hardest Part"—facing the lonely struggle to understand, to deal with guilt and shame—and ultimately to the point of personal and familial reconciliation, and for some, acceptance ("Lessons of Time").

Seven of the eight parents in "Parents Come Out" are current or former members of the San Francisco chapter of P-FLAG. Through many hours they have devoted to open and honest dialogues—with each other, with newcomers to the monthly P-FLAG meetings, and with community groups nationwide—these extraordinary parents have become articulate spokespersons for their message.

"I, too, had to come out of the closet," acknowledges one mother, looking back to her own evolution in learning to accept her son's homosexuality.

The parents talk about shame, guilt, and years of isolation while they gradually educated themselves, met other gay people, and began to replace age-old stereotypes with accurate information.

"When my daughter first brought her lover to the house, I was very uncomfortable," states one parent. "But I knew I wanted her to come more often. That was the only way. And when parents say to me, 'I'm so uncomfortable walking down Castro Street,' I say, 'Do it more often!'"

The mix of religious, ethnic and racial backgrounds among the parents in this program offers a variety of perspectives for the diverse audiences the "Parents Come Out" producers hope to reach.

KQED-TV is the first station to purchase the program for local broadcast. Judging by the strong interest expressed by other

stations and preview audiences, the producers feel that "Parents Come Out" is likely to be seen throughout the country by the end of the year.

The producers have stated that: "We've been amazed at the impact of this program on gay people. Many feel compelled to talk to their families differently, to push the issue and refuse to accept a second-class status as a gay person in the family."

The program's creators hope that "Parents Come Out" will be used by counselors, social service agencies, schools and libraries to raise awareness of an important social issue. They also hope that gay men and women will rent or purchase this program to show to their own families.

To obtain a copy of "Parents Come Out," contact P-FLAG, Post Office Box 640223, San Francisco, CA 94164. (Or ask for it at your neighborhood video store!)

## Classes Begin

(Continued from page 1)

In order to claim and use our heritage, we must first enter deeply into it. Accordingly, all of the classes being offered are textual studies. Our texts, though, range from the most ancient passages of Torah to the lyrics and musical text of contemporary song—they and everything in between are the proper subjects of Jewish learning. ("Everything in between" will be offered in future terms.)

We invite you with the words spoken by Franz Rosenzweig to another community of Jewish "learners" sixty-five years ago: "May the hours you spend here become hours of remembrance, . . . an inner remembering, a turning from externals to that which is within, a turning that, believe me, will and must become for you a returning home. Turn into yourself, return home to your innermost self and to your innermost life."

— Rabbi Yoel Kahn

## Get Involved!

The following asterisked standing committees as well as short-term ad-hoc committees need you:

- |                  |                              |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| * Bikur Cholim   | Fundraising Events           |
| Building         | * Chanukah Party             |
| Bylaws           | Seder                        |
| Education        | Purim Party                  |
| Finance          | High Holy Days               |
| * Membership     | Gay Freedom Day Parade       |
| Newsletter       | * World Congress Activities  |
| Oneg             | Picnics & Outdoor Activities |
| Public Relations | Office Help                  |
| Ritual           | Blood Drive                  |
| Social Action    | * Brotherhood                |
| Women's Havurah  |                              |

Yes, I'd like to get involved in \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (work) \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Congregation Sha'ar Zahav  
220 Danvers at Caselli  
San Francisco, CA 94114



## Social Action

### JFCS Post-Oneg Program

On Friday October 18th, following services and the Oneg, Debbie Goodman of the San Francisco Jewish Family and Children's Services (JFCS) will, with the aid of a videotape, explain what the JFCS is all about and respond to our questions.

A major social service provider for the Peninsula, San Francisco, Marin and Sonoma Counties, the JFCS annually serves over 14,000 people of all ages and income levels with professional and volunteer staff.

Please join us the evening of the 18th to learn more about this valuable Jewish resource in our community and about how we, collectively and as individuals, may participate or avail ourselves of its services.

### Discussion of UAHC Resolutions

Sha'ar Zahav is spearheading an effort to present an AIDS resolution on the floor of the UAHC 58th General Assembly being held in Los Angeles at the end of October. (See separate article for discussion of this resolution.) In addition, many other resolutions will be presented at the convention for our delegates to vote upon. We have been provided drafts of three major resolutions. While it is not feasible to provide all of the background information leading to the proposed conclusions, highlighted below are excerpts of the "THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED" section. Any member desiring a complete copy of the resolutions can obtain such by calling Marilyn in the synagogue office.

To assist Sha'ar Zahav's delegates in making an informed decision and one which is consistent with the views of the majority of CSZ members, the following resolutions will be discussed at the next Social Action Committee meeting on Thursday, October 17, 7:00p.m. at the Synagogue. All interested members are encouraged to attend and should read the resolutions prior to the meeting, if possible.

#### I. REFUGEES AND SANCTUARY —The UAHC

- a) asks that the U.S. government fairly apply the Refugee Act of 1980, without regard to the political rela-

(Continued on page 9)

## Contributions

Sha'ar Zahav welcomes all contributions, of all sizes, to mark any event, and to any of our funds. Contributions will be acknowledged in *The Forward* unless requested otherwise.

Donations were made to Sha'ar Zahav's funds in the past month by the following contributors:

*For the Phooey on AIDS Fund—*  
**Celia and Martin Kupferman**

*For the General Fund—*

**Isabel Fishman**, in memory of her husband

**Bernard Pechter**, in memory of Seth Charney's father

**Daniel Chesir**, in memory of Seth Charney's father

**Rabbi Myra Soifer**

**Don Albert**, in memory of Seth Charney's father and in hopes of a speedy recovery for Evelyn Bryan

**Mark Mackler and Ingu Yun**, in honor of Jonathan Funk's birthday

*For the Education Fund—*

**Robin Albert**, in honor of her brother, Don Albert

**Paul Cohen**, in memory of Seth Charney's father

**Sharyn Saslafsky**, in memory of Frank Hyman's father

*For the Library Fund—*

**Henry and Gertrude Yam**, in honor of Don Albert becoming President

**Bruce Hansen**, in memory of Seth Charney's father

*For the Prayerbook Fund—*

**Allan Berenstein**, in memory of Frank Hyman's father and in memory of Patricia Turano

*For the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund—*

**Mike Rankin**, in honor of Rabbi Kahn's installation

**Marion Trentman**

**Gerald Rosenstein**

**Jane Stone**, in appreciation of Rabbi Kahn

**Jerry Sachs**, in thanks to James, Joan and Wilbur

**Rob Tat**, in honor of Rabbi Kahn's installation

**Don Albert**, in appreciation for the work that Aaron Cooper did for Rabbi Kahn's installation

*Gifts to the Congregation—*

Bookcase for Rabbi Kahn's study, given by **Irene Ogus**

Desk chair for Rabbi Kahn's study, given by **Nanci Stern**

Pair of leaded glass panels donated in Mike Rankin's honor by **Jim Buchanan**

File cabinet for Rabbi Kahn's study, given by **Alex Ingersoll and David Stein**

## Women Do Brunch

The Women's Havurah will host a brunch for all women members and friends in Sue Douglass's succah at 4109 Culver Street, Oakland, starting at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, October 6. Come bring your favorite breakfast potluck creation to share. Plates, coffee, tea, etc. will be provided. Children are more than welcome. We are hoping that this will be the first of many brunches held on a regular basis by the Women's Havurah.

Directions: from S.F., Berkeley, downtown Oakland—580 east, exit at High Street (2nd exit past Fruitvale), right onto High Street, 3 blocks to N&M Liquors, right onto Culver Street to 4109 (next to the last house on the left). By public transit, take BART to Fruitvale station and call. Please RSVP—or if lost—call 534-1606.

## Goodstein Memorial Fund

The Gay Rights National Lobby has established the David Goodstein Memorial Fund to honor the memory of one of the founders of the organization. Most noted as the publisher of *The Advocate*, Goodstein played a significant and influential role throughout the Lobby's history. Those interested in making donations to the Fund may write Gay Rights National Lobby, P.O. Box 1892, Washington, DC 20013, or call the Lobby's Development Director, Ron Wudarsky, at 202-546-1801.

Want to be in a good "space?"  
How about this one!

If you want to place an ad for your business, contact Jay Feinstein, 621-6594.



## Leviticus 18: A Modern Jewish Perspective

**“You shall not lie with a man as with a woman.”**

That verse from the eighteenth chapter of *Leviticus* has been the subject of much discussion in recent years. Does it prohibit male homosexuality absolutely, as the Jewish and non-Jewish traditionalists claim? Or does it only prohibit homosexual acts as a part of religious ceremonies? This was apparently common practice in the tribes among whom the Israelites lived.

Or is this simply one of those passages in the Torah which may have been understood in one way centuries ago, but which in our time must be considered in context and reinterpreted? Most liberal Jews believe that it is.

In 1981 the Union of American Hebrew Congregations published a new translation of the Torah, with extensive commentary. It was and is a splendid work, with insights drawn from many sources. But the commentary on the Leviticus 18 verses was patronizing in tone and full of misinformation and old stereotypes. Written in the early 1970's, it should have been substantially revised before the Commentary was published. It no longer reflected the position of the Union on homosexuality and on gay and lesbian Jews and their congregations. But there it was, under the official imprimatur of the UAHC, distributed to every Reform congregation and library and to many homes—including the homes of our parents and teachers and employers and friends. It had to be changed.

Members of our congregation met with Rabbi Leonard Schoolman of the UAHC to discuss the matter. He shared our concern and agreed that something had to be done. We offered to write a revision for the next edition, something that would be positive and affirmative, as well as accurate and balanced.

Unfortunately, he informed us, that wasn't possible. The contract with the original author specified that what he had written would be used essentially unchanged for two editions. So all we were able to do was go through it line by line, remove the inaccurate statements, and add some information which reflects current scientific thinking on homosexuality. Once that was done, we sent a copy to Rabbi Schoolman, who asked Rabbi Gunther Plaut, editor of the Commentary, to review it. He thought it was fine, and Rabbi Schoolman informed us that our revision will be included in the second edi-

tion, to be published in the next few months.

When it appears, this is what it will look like. If you have a copy of the first edition (page 881), it might be interesting to compare the two.

### 5. Homosexual Behavior

Far more controversial, from the modern standpoint, is the apparent condemnation of sexual relations between males (XVIII; 22)—conduct for which the death penalty is prescribed (XX; 13) (21). We have no record of a death sentence for this crime being carried out under Jewish auspices. Apparently, Christian courts executed some persons for sodomy during the Middle Ages. Up to the present, persons who commit homosexual acts are subject to severe prison sentences in many countries, including some parts of the United States—even in the case of consenting adults. A number of homosexuals were publicly executed in Iran in recent years.

Until recently, homosexuality, especially among males, has been regarded with horror as unnatural, perverted, and degenerate, wherever the Jewish-Christian outlook prevailed. The first public change of attitude in the western world was voiced chiefly by psychiatrists who called for greater compassion toward homosexuals.

In his famous 1935 letter to the concerned mother of a homosexual man, Sigmund Freud wrote, “Homosexuality is assuredly no advantage, but it is nothing to be ashamed of, no vice, no degradation; it cannot be classified as an illness.”

In 1974, the American Psychiatric Association deleted the term “homosexuality” from the official list of mental illnesses. Dr. Judd Marmor, past president of the American Psychiatric Association, writes in his book *Homosexual Behavior: A Modern Reappraisal*, “There is no doubt that ultimately an enlightened and civilized society must rid itself of its homophobic fears and prejudices. The vast majority of homosexual men and women ask only to be accepted as human beings and allowed to live their own lives free of persecution or discrimination.”

The summary and rigid condemnation of homosexual conduct found in the Hebrew Bible (22) will leave many modern readers dissatisfied. Whether the time has come to rethink our attitudes toward homosexual relationships is still debated. The subject is difficult to deal with both

because of the strong emotions it rouses, and because our understanding of the matter is far from complete. The following statements, however, are probably reliable.

In many cultures there has been little or no objection to homosexual behavior. The ancient Egyptians condemned it (23) but it was widespread among the Greeks. Even in societies that officially ban such practices, they occur more frequently than former generations supposed—or at least admitted. Homosexual behavior has often been noted among lower animals as well. The extent of homosexual activity in a given time or place is conditioned partly by social factors. It is more common where members of the opposite sex are not readily available. The reason for this is that most people cannot be sharply separated into two categories. They can respond to either heterosexual or homosexual stimulation. The exclusively heterosexual and the exclusively homosexual represent extremes; but, as a rule, people are predominantly one or the other.

We do not really know why some people have a predominantly homosexual orientation. There is no known physiological or biochemical distinction between heterosexual and homosexual persons. Homosexual men and women are rarely identifiable by the stereotypical behavior once attached to them. Nor are they more likely than the general population to exhibit neurotic symptoms or traits.

There does not appear to be any successful technique by which a homosexual orientation can be transformed into a heterosexual one, and mental health professionals rarely attempt it.

Our greatest needs at present are to gain more knowledge on the subject, knowledge which is sought objectively and without prejudice; and to insure that individual reactions to this admittedly sensitive subject do not prevent us from working actively for simple justice and fairness for homosexual women and men.

—Submitted by Mike Rankin

### MEMBERSHIP

Check it out.  
Besides the benefits,  
it feels good to be  
part of Sha'ar Zahav.



# OCTOBER

# תשרי - חשוון

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		16 Tishrei 1 2nd Day Succot	17 2 1st Day Chol Hamo'ed Succot Education Comm. 7pm	18 3	19 4 Services, 8:15 p.m.	20 5
21 6 Women's Havurah Brunch, 10:30 am 4109 Culver, Oak Simchat Torah Service, 7:30 pm	22 7 Atzeret/ Simchat Torah	23 8	24 9 Soviet Vigil Green & Baker 11:30am	25 10 Newsletter Comm. 330 Collingwood, 7pm	26 11 Services, 8:15 p.m.	27 12
28 13 Simchat Torah Rally, 10-1 Green & Baker	29 14 Va'ad Meeting 6:30pm Newsletter Deadline	30 15 Rosh Chodesh I Fine Arts Panel 7:30pm	1 Cheshvan 16 Rosh Chodesh II	2 17 Social Action 7pm	3 18 Services, 8:15 pm Post-Oneg Program: JFCS	4 19
5 20	6 21 Education Night 7:30 pm	7 22	8 23	9 24	10 25 Services, 8:15 p.m.	11 26 Morning Services 10:30 a.m.
12 27	13 28 Education Night, 7:30 pm	14 29	15 30	16 31 UAHC Biennial thru Nov. 5 Newsletter Mailing 11 Grandview Terr. 7:30 pm.		

## Ritual Calendar

Friday, October 4

Shabbat Hol Ha-Moed Succot  
Special Parshah: Exod. 33:12-34:26,  
Num. 29:23-31  
Haftarah: Ezekiel 38:18-39:16  
Steve Greenberg, Services

Sunday, October 6

Simchat Torah 7:30 p.m.  
Rabbi Yoel Kahn, Services

Friday October 11—Shabbat Bereshit

Parshah: Bereshit, Gen. 1:1-6:8  
Haftarah: Isaiah 42:5-43:11  
Leslie Bergson and Susan Unger,  
Services

Friday October 18

Parshah: Noah, Gen. 6:9-11:32  
Haftarah: Isaiah 54:1-55:5  
Rabbi Yoel Kahn and Daniel Chesir,  
Services

Friday, October 25

Parshah: Lekh Lekha, Gen. 12:1-17:27  
Haftarah: Isaiah 40:27-41:16  
Rabbi Yoel Kahn, Services

Saturday, October 26

Shabbat Morning Services, 10:30 a.m.  
Rabbi Yoel Kahn, Services

## November Preview

Friday, November 1

Parshah: Va-Yera, Gen. 18:1-22:44  
Haftarah: II Kings 4:1-37  
Paul Cohen, Services

Friday, November 8

Parshah: Hayye Sarah, Gen.  
23:1-25:18  
Haftarah: I Kings 1:2-31  
Eric Keitel, Services

## Office Notes

A limited number of copies of the *Jewish Calendar* 5746 are still available through the office at \$7 apiece. Give me a call if you would like one (861-6932).

—Marilyn Hertzberg, Administrator

## Semi-Annual Meeting

The semi-annual meeting of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav will convene on Sunday afternoon, November 10th, at 3 p.m.

The major items on the agenda will be President Don Albert's report on the State of the Congregation, as well as reports from Rabbi Yoel Kahn and Treasurer Betty Kalis.

The Bylaws Review Committee will present several proposals for additions and amendments to our bylaws, and various committee chairs will also be reporting to the Congregation. Light refreshments will follow.

Remember that under our bylaws you must be current on payment of your membership dues pledge in order to vote at the Congregational Meeting. If you are in doubt on this point, contact Betty Kalis or the synagogue office. Betty, of course, will be at the meeting, willing and ready to collect your payments. See you there!



## Va'ad Report

The Va'ad held its regular monthly meeting on the second Monday of September (the 9th) at the Shul. In his D'Var Torah, Rabbi Kahn presented a story illustrating opportunities for T'shuvah (repentance).

President Don Albert reported: Susan Unger has begun work on a cookbook project as a fundraiser for the Congregation and for our AIDS food drive. Don has been contacted by Lolma Olson, President of our sibling congregation, Ahavat Shalom, about the possibility of our working together in some areas such as the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations. Our congregation has purchased two copies of the video "Parents Come Out" for the shul library. (Note that the film will be shown on KQED later this month.)

Treasurer Betty Kalis gave an update on the status of dues pledges for 1985-86, and obtained authorization from the Board to open an account at Hibernia Bank if needed to obtain a line of credit to help fund renovations of the second floor.

Rabbi Kahn reminded us that he is in the office most days, but that he is particularly available Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Call the office for an appointment. Marilyn reminded committee chairs to inform her when meeting dates are set so she can calendar them and attempt to avert conflicts.

In a UAHC update, Don was pleased to announce that our AIDS resolution is now in distribution around the country in preparation for its presentation and approval at the L.A. Biennial; and Mike Rankin reported that Rabbi Robert Kirschner of Congregation Emanu-El will be heading the convention's panel on Homosexuality and Judaism.

The Building Committee, through Garry Koenigsberg, informed the Va'ad that it is in the process of attempting to find the most economical method of renovating the upstairs office area. David Gass, chair of the Bylaws Review Committee presented for its first reading an addition to the bylaws providing for a standing Personnel Committee. Chair Bob Berkowitz of the Membership Committee presented the names of two new members, who were unanimously approved by the Va'ad.

Paul Cohen, Chair of the Education Committee, announced that the upcoming series of classes now includes one on Jewish Life Through Music, and that plans

for the 1985-86 lecture series are under way.

Sharyn Saslafsky, on behalf of the Public Relations Committee, presented a token of appreciation to Ron Lezell, Chair of Social Action, for his good words in the feature article on him in the B.A.R. Ron then reported that his committee, which meets the third Thursday of each month, is finalizing the process which originated at the Advance for review and evaluation of issues. Also, we will be taking part in the Simchat Torah Rally at the Soviet Consulate on Sunday, October 13th; and on Friday, October 18, we will have a post-Oneg speaker from the San Francisco Bureau of Jewish Family and Children's Services. Ron noted that our involvement in social action activities is being sought more and more by the community.

Social Program Chair Shirley Liberman reported on the progress in planning the Chanukah Party and Raffle. Allyce Kimerling of the Women's Havurah reported that the group is going strong and has three events planned for the Fall season, in addition to its work on High Holy Days childcare. Alex Ingersoll, Chair of the Newsletter Committee, gave an update on that group's continuing (and continuous) work.

Under new business, the Va'ad began to discuss the subject of how the Congregation should observe Shabbat. For example, should workshops on synagogue issues ever be scheduled on Saturdays? It was agreed that a policy would evolve through ongoing discussion and consideration of the question, but that in the interim no congregational function would be scheduled during hours in which shabbat services are normally held.

We closed with our traditional spirited evaluation of the meeting, and Oseh Shalom.

Remember, members are welcome to attend Va'ad meetings and to take part in discussion of the many issues which affect all aspects of our congregational life. Meetings are held the second Monday of the month, at the shul, in the Oneg Room. Please come.

—Richard Inlander, Recorder

## Holocaust Media Project

The Holocaust Media Project has been recording the history of the Holocaust via oral interviews with Holocaust survivors in the Bay Area. Survivors or other individuals with first hand experience of the Holocaust period—camp liberators, resistance fighters, partisans, or witnesses—are invited to take part in this timely endeavor. Survivors will be interviewed and their stories will be included in a permanent collection of oral history archived at the Holocaust Library and Research Center of San Francisco. In June of 1985 the Project donated 450 tapes of interviews to the Library collected during the past four and one-half years. If you or someone you know is interested in giving testimony, contact the Holocaust Media Project at 751-6040 or write to 639 14th Avenue, San Francisco 94118. Individual and institutional memberships with the Project are also available. Please contact the above office for information.

## October Jahrzeits

- 1 Allegra Affias, Grandmother of David Kotch
- 1 Tobias Rothstein, Great-grandfather of Bruce Katz
- 2 Morris Landesman, Grandfather of Jonathan Goldman
- 3 David Lawrence, Friend of Richard Inlander
- 9 (24 Tishri) Nathan Ogus, Father of Irene Ogus
- 10 (25 Tishri) Sara Marcus, Mother of Ben Marcus
- 11 Gussie Lee Glass, Father of Barbara Nabors-Glass
- 11 Ida Goldware, Grandmother of Robert Goldware
- 14 Kathryn Kihn, Friend of Abigail Abbuehl
- 15 Abraham Cahn, Father of Isabel Fishman
- 18 (3 Heshvan) Abner Schmidt, Grandfather of Don Albert
- 19 Steven Pines, Brother of Deborah Pines
- 20 Josephine Tinnin, Great-grandaunt of Lisa Daniel
- 21 Osna Frischman, Mother of Ralph Frischman
- 21 Lee Rothchild, Friend of Deborah Pines
- 24 Dora Spiro, Grandmother of Shelley Spiro
- 31 Mary Palmatier, Aunt of Dana Vinicoff

### SPONSOR AN ONEG!

It's a great way to  
celebrate a special occasion.



## Social Action

(Continued from page 5)

tionship between the country fled and the U.S.;

- b) favors passage of legislation which would temporarily suspend deportations of those fleeing El Salvador and Guatemala and oppressive regimes;
- c) acknowledges that religious institutions do not stand outside the law; however, the selective interpretation of the law and the human tragedies which have resulted from that interpretation calls for a moral response from us as Jews. Accordingly, we urge our congregations and their members to provide sanctuary (which could include support, protection and advocacy) to Central American and other refugees who request safe haven out of fear of persecution upon return to their homelands.

### II. SOUTH AFRICA—The UAHC

- a) reaffirms its condemnation of apartheid;
- b) calls on the U.S. Congress to enact legislation which will do the following:
  - i) ban new business investment bank loans in South Africa;
  - ii) ban all sales of nuclear material, equipment and technology;
  - iii) ban U.S. contributions to South Africa through the International Monetary Fund;
- c) insists that if substantial progress toward the abolition of apartheid does not occur within 3 years, the U.S. Congress will:
  - i) mandate divestment of U.S. firms from South Africa;
  - ii) institute total trade embargo;
- d) calls upon UAHC to divest all investments in corporations doing business in South Africa;
- e) urges organizations affiliated with the UAHC and its member congregations to initiate a process of divestment in corporations doing business in South Africa.

### III. WAGE DISCRIMINATION—The UAHC

- a) calls upon the U.S. Department of Justice to enter into suits on the side of those in traditional women's jobs who are the victims of wage discrimination, to obtain

for them pay equal to that provided for those in other jobs which require similar skills, education, effort and responsibility;

- b) supports legislation calling for job evaluation studies and appropriate remedial actions on the federal, state and municipal levels;
- c) sets an example for the larger society by calling on our own national Reform organizations, as well as local synagogues and other Jewish agencies, to examine our compensation practices and implement recommendations that will assure equal pay for comparable work.

—Ron Lezell, Chair  
Social Action Committee

## October Anniversaries

- 12 Alex Ingersoll and David Stein
- 22 Stephen Walters and David Marks
- 29 Bill Goldstein and Christopher Archuleta
- 31 Lynn Alcorn and Roberta W.

## October Birthdays!

- 2 Sharyn Saslaffsky
- 4 Richard Inlander
- 6 Marianne Sussman
- 7 David Wasserman
- 7 Mike Zimmerman
- 8 Elliott Toporek
- 13 Wendy Weiss
- 13 David Gellman
- 16 Bob Mackey
- 20 Don Berger
- 20 Ron Moskowitz
- 20 Bernard Pechter
- 21 Chuck Norton
- 27 Jane Stone
- 28 Rabbi Yoel Kahn
- 29 Allan Berenstein
- 30 Shelley Fernandez
- 31 Joel Paul

Please,

don't forget our brothers in need.  
Keep filling the shul's collection baskets with non-perishable food and other household items for the SF AIDS Foundation's residence program

## Bylaws Report

The Bylaws Committee has met several times the past few months and has been identifying and discussing issues that need to be addressed this year.

Several of the areas which will require further discussion by the committee are:

- Should CSZ continue to offer family memberships? (A task force is being established to develop recommendations on this issue.)
- Is it necessary to maintain a requirement of alternate gender for the Presidency?
- Should a two-year presidential term be developed?
- Do the duties of the Rabbi need to be included in the bylaws and if so, what should they be?
- Should the Executive Committee be defined as a standing committee?

Any recommendations resulting from the discussion of these issues will be presented at the May 1986 semi-annual meeting.

Items addressed by the committee that may be presented at the November 1985 semi-annual meeting are: the establishment of a Personnel Committee as a standing committee and the expansion of the role of the Bylaws Committee.

One issue resolved by the committee was the confidentiality of the membership mailing list. After extensive research, it was agreed that the membership list was confidential and could not be released to members, but that individuals could create their own lists by collecting names and addresses.

If you would like further information regarding any of the issues or would like to be involved in future discussions, please contact David Gass, Bylaws Chair, at either 567-7654 or 441-6866.

—Jay Feinstein, Bylaws Committee



## So Ask Aunt Yente

Dear Aunt Yente,

So while I was back in New York for the holidays, my sister—who has grown very religious lately—and I went shopping in Manhattan. I found a very nice dress in Klein's, a blue linen-wool knit; but when I showed it to my sister, she started yelling, "S'not nice! S'not nice!" I thought it was very nice, and I certainly didn't think my sister had to shout her disapproval. I know you are not Miss Manners, but isn't this rudeness a violation of some Jewish law?

Relieved to be back from Rockway

Dear Relieved,

Aunt Yente, herself having just recovered from her annual High Holiday visit to the old country (Flatbush), can understand your difficulty communicating with the natives; but as to part of your question, you will have to excuse your Aunt Yente. She has few rules about her column, but one is that she will not discuss any question that requires comment about the manners of people who live in New York City. Since your sister is what you call "religious", though, Aunt Yente hopes she will learn the teaching of the Talmud, that to shame someone before others is as grave a sin as murder.

Aunt Yente suspects, however, that your sister was not yelling out her opinion of her taste, but had a religious issue in mind. If the dress is a mix of linen and wool (whether it's nice or whether it "s'not nice"), it is definitely, under Jewish law, *Shatnes*. The Torah says that we are not supposed to wear any clothing that is made from a mixture of fibers, particularly if one is from an animal (like wool) and another from a plant (like linen). A linen/wool dress would be *shatnes*, and a very orthodox Jew would not wear it.

Aunt Yente must admit that of the various laws of the Bible, *shatnes* is not one

your Aunt Yente loses sleep over. The law does not seem to her to have any moral reason behind it; Aunt Yente has never heard wool complain about sharing the same sweater with linen, and being kind to fabrics is not a major mitzvah as far as she knows. (Although everyone should try harder not to be cruel to polyester.) The symbolic message in *shatnes* probably has to do with racial purity and keeping separate from other people, which are also not high on Aunt Yente's list of things to worry about.

If there is value to the laws of *shatnes*, it maybe is that they make us pay attention to where the cloth comes from: that it doesn't just grow on a rack at Macy's, but some comes from animals, some from plants, and some from little ultras (the ones that make the nice suede; they're related to the naugas). Like kashrut and some of our other laws, *shatnes* does help us to remember that our need for food and clothing and a million other things are tied in with the natural world of creation, the many other *chayas* that God has placed with us in the world. But if you promise to keep this in mind, Aunt Yente will look the other way about the fibers in the dress. (A blue knit? Does it come in Aunt Yente's size? Never mind. Aunt Yente knows what you were going to ask, and she's not going to tell you.)

And finally, so what makes you think Aunt Yente is not maybe Miss Manners? When she answers religious questions, so her writing gets more formal, that's all.

—Aunt Yente

Aunt Yente will answer all your questions about Jewish law and ritual matters. Just write to Aunt Yente in care of *The Forward*, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, CA 94114.

All material © 1985 Congregation Sha'ar Zahav.

## Docent Training at Magnes

Looking for an enriching experience, fun and a chance to serve the community? Become a Judah Magnes Museum docent. The Magnes Museum collects, preserves, and exhibits artistic, historical, and literary material reflecting Jewish life and cultural contributions throughout history. Museum docents conduct tours for visitors, bringing the exhibits to life and forming important interpersonal links with the public.

Prior museum experience and expertise in Jewish studies are not required; however, applicants should have good communication skills and enjoy working with people. Training classes are taught by museum staff members at the museum on Sunday mornings, 10:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., from January 5–April 20, 1986. Through a program of slide lectures, demonstrations and assigned readings, docent trainees learn about Jewish culture, ceremonial and fine art, and also study biblical history and Jewish religious observance. Trainees become well-versed in the background of the museum, its collections and exhibitions. At the same time, they learn and practice successful docenting techniques.

A tuition fee of \$65 is required for the class. Some partial scholarships are available. Graduates agree to serve one half-day per month "on duty" for a minimum of one year. Application forms may be obtained by calling the docent training coordinator at 451-7114, or by writing to the museum at 2911 Russell Street, Berkeley, Attn: Docent Training. Deadline for applications is November 15, 1985.

## Classified Ads

**ROOMMATE NEEDED:** Nice Jewish boy seeks roommate to share 3-bedroom, sunny & comfortable Noe Valley flat (\$475/mo + utilities). Am looking for stable person with good disposition and sense of humor; living room furniture and exquisite sense of taste highly desirable but not a necessity. Call me quick: Rick Crane, 282-8815.

**PHOTOGRAPHERS:** Get involved in the excitement of creating our newsletter. *The Forward* can use photographs of Synagogue events—clear color or black & white. Call Alex (431-7541) or Bob (641-9111).

**FOR SALE:** Living Room and Dining Room furniture including sofa, chairs, dining set, bookcase, end/coffee tables, lamps and recliner. All items are in good condition and priced to sell. Contact Bob Goldware at 641-9111.

### Attorney

**David R. Gellman**  
**(415) 621-2966**

- Contracts & Leases
- Estate Planning & Wills

- Real Estate
- Business Law & Litigation

**Reasonable Fees**  
**Evening &**  
**Weekend**  
**Appointments**

**45 Franklin St.**  
**San Francisco, Ca.**  
**94102**



**Wish Someone You Care for  
a Happy Chanukah  
Place a Chanukah Greeting in the Forward**

Happy Chanukah to  
**Our Rabbi**  
Thank you for  
joining us.  
**The Congregation**

Happy Chanukah Ann  
May the miracle of lights  
shine for you throughout  
the year. I love you,  
**Eve**

Happy  
Chanukah  
**Aunt Yente**  
from all Your  
Secret Admirers

If you wish to place a greeting in the Forward, please print the message below to return with your payment to:

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav  
220 Danvers at Caselli  
San Francisco, CA 94114

---

---

---

---

\*Rates are \$10.00 for 20 words or less. Please limit your greeting to less than 20 words.

## Sibling Notes

**Philadelphia:** Beth Ahavah welcomed its first Rabbi, Linda Holtzman. An installation is being planned for October 11. We congratulate Beth Ahavah and Rabbi Holtzman.

**Washington, DC:** Bet Mishpachah, which hosted the Ninth International Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jews, devoted a major portion of its August newsletter to reviewing the events, the press coverage of them, and to thanking its members for helping to make the conference a success.

**Houston:** Aytz Chayim has a committee working hard putting together a new prayer book. A mezuzah hanging ceremony was held at their synagogue in July.

## It's the Pitts

San Francisco Hillel presents the Zasu Pitts Memorial Orchestra in the fund-raising event of the year. Featured on the cover of *San Francisco Magazine*, this innovative musical group plays your favorite hits from the 50's and 60's. Come ward off the big chill! Don't miss them at the Great American Music Hall on Wednesday October 23 at 8:00 p.m. Tickets for this benefit performance are only \$35.00 and can be purchased from San Francisco Hillel, located at 33 Banbury Drive, or at the door. Your contribution is tax deductible.

San Francisco Hillel is a non-profit organization devoted to serving the needs of Jewish students and young adults in the Bay Area. For more information call 333-4922.

## From the Treasurer

Those few of you who have not yet sent in your membership pledges may feel that you need to wait until you can pay the pledge or a substantial portion of it. That would, of course, be lovely, but we need to know what we can expect in the way of dues income for the rest of the year. So send in your pledge even if you can't pay until later. If you've lost your pledge slip, just write a note. If you have made your dues pledge but have not yet sent in a special high holidays contribution, please send your check today. If you still have money left over, both the Social Action and Oneg funds are sorely in need of contributions. What else do you expect from the Treasurer?

—Betty L. Kalis, Treasurer



# CONGREGATION SHA'AR ZAHAV

220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114

שַׁעַר זָהָב

(415) 861-6932

## Officers:

President, Don Albert  
Vice President, Leslie Bergson  
Treasurer, Betty Kalis  
Recorder, Richard Inlander

## Va'ad (Board) Members:

Alex Ingersoll  
Allyce Kimerling  
Garry Koenigsberg  
Shirley Liberman  
Irene Ogus  
Cheryl Orvis  
Mike Rankin  
Jerry Rosenstein  
Sharyn Saslafsky

**Rabbi: Yoel Kahn.** Please contact the Synagogue Office to make an appointment.

## Committee Chairs:

Bikur Cholim, Rabbi Ben Marcus  
Building, David Gellman  
Bylaws, David Gass  
Education, Paul Cohen  
Finance, by committee  
Membership, Bob Berkowitz  
Newsletter, Alex Ingersoll  
Oneg, Peter Abinanti  
Public Relations, Sharyn Saslafsky  
Ritual, Daniel Chesir  
Social Action, Ron Lezell  
Social Program, Shirley Liberman  
Women's Havurah, Allyce Kimerling

## Data Managers:

Alita Rosenfeld  
Jerry Rosenstein

## Administrator: Marilyn Hertzberg

The Synagogue Office is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., and Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. At other times, please leave a phone message.

**Emergency Number:** In an emergency situation, the Congregation can be contacted outside of office hours by calling 420-9718.

**Congregation Sha'ar Zahav** is located in the Upper Market District of San Francisco at 220 Caselli at Danvers, which is one block south of the intersection of 18th & Market Streets. By public transport, take MUNI bus no. 33 (Ashbury line) to 18th & Danvers and walk one block south on Danvers to Caselli.

**Services** are held every Friday evening beginning at 8:15 p.m., with an Oneg Shabbat following services. Services are generally held on the last Saturday of each month at 10:30 a.m. – check calendar for each month.

**Member:** Union of American Hebrew Congregations and World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations.

## Ethiopian Journal at the Magnes

**E**thiopian Journal—November 1984, an exhibition of photographs of Ethiopian Jewish village life and ritual, is now at the Magnes Museum in Berkeley.

Illuminating and powerful, these images of a vanishing way of life were taken by Bay Area photographer Marriam Cramer Ring during a November 1984 fact-finding journey organized by the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council.

Several photographic sequences highlight the traditional mountaintop observance of the uniquely Ethiopian Jewish holiday of Segd, which celebrates "the re-establishment of the covenant with God." Other photographs focus on daily village life.

This exhibition will run through December 1. The Judah L. Magnes Museum is located at 2911 Russell Street in Berkeley (near the Claremont). The Museum is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday through Friday, and admission is free. For more information, call 849-2710.



PHOTO BY MARRIAM CRAMER RING

## Behind the Scenes

**T**his past month, many, many members of Sha'ar Zahav have been involved in preparation for synagogue events: High Holy Days, the new education series and even Chanukah planning. Reports on these events will mention many of these volunteers, but already we can give thanks to all the members of the Ritual Committee who were responsible for the enormous task of devising, coordinating and assigning parts in our High Holy Day services to all those members who asked to participate. In particular, thanks to Steve Greenberg who handled all the word processing of the customized letters participants received. Steve has often lent his word processing expertise to the shul—having done most of the word processing for both the Yom Kippur and Saturday morning prayerbooks in previous years.

There are a lot of tasks involved in making Sha'ar Zahav such a successful synagogue. And the work gets done by volunteers putting in a lot of time and by volunteers putting in just a little time. Our thanks to all.



# FALL 1985 EDUCATION NIGHT AT SHA'AR ZAHAV

Mondays, October 21 – December 23 (Except 11/11 and 12/9)

Class 1:

## Reform Judaism: How, What and Why

Where does Reform Judaism come from? What does "Reform" mean? How is Reform Judaism different from other branches of contemporary Judaism? This class will answer these questions and others in a lively discussion which will overview the origins of Reform Judaism in Europe and America and the exploration of Reform Jewish teaching on important Jewish issues.

Instructor: Rabbi Yoel Kahn

Time: 7:30 – 8:25 p.m.

Tuition: Members – free Non-members – \$20

Class 2:

## Jewish Life Through Music

What makes music Jewish? What is Jewish music? These questions will be explored in a participatory environment of learning and singing. No musical ability is required. Jonathan will play, sing and have guest artists perform liturgical, modern Israeli, Chassidic, Sephardic, and "camp" music.

Instructor: Jonathan Schwartz

Time: 7:30 p.m. – 8:25 p.m.

Tuition: Members – \$20 Non-members – \$30

Social Refreshment Break: 8:25 – 8:40 p.m.

Class 3:

## A Jewish Look at the Five Books

This will be the first in an on-going series of classes on "The Five Books"—The Jewish Bible. We will begin with the Book of Exodus, the second Book of the Torah. We will examine the Biblical text and what ancient and modern commentators have taught about it. Hebrew reading is not required for this course.

Instructor: Rabbi Yoel Kahn

Time: 8:40 – 9:35 p.m.

Tuition: Members – free Non-Members – \$20

All classes are scheduled to meet at the synagogue.

Registration fee of \$5 per semester.

Advance Registration Required—Deadline, Friday, October 11

### EDUCATION CLASS REGISTRATION FORM—FALL SEMESTER

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Class 1: Reform Judaism

Class 2: Jewish Life Thru Music

Class 3: A Jewish Look at the Five Books: Exodus

Members

Non-Members

☐ Free

☐ \$20.00

☐ \$20.00

☐ \$30.00

☐ Free

☐ \$20.00

Subtotal: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Semester Registration Fee: \$ 5.00

\$ 5.00

Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Return registration to synagogue

Payment must accompany registration form.

If you prefer using a credit card, please complete the following:

Visa/MasterCard # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



